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Security Council

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Resolution 2408 (2018)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 8215th meeting, on 27 March 2018

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions and statements of its President on the situation in Somalia,

Reaffirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, and unity of Somalia, and underscoring the importance of working to prevent destabilizing effects of regional crises and disputes from spilling over into Somalia,

Strongly condemning recent attacks by the terrorist group Al-Shabaab including the terrorist attack of 14 October 2017, which targeted civilians in Mogadishu killing in excess of 500 people, and the attacks of 23 February 2018, expressing serious concern at the ongoing threat posed by Al-Shabaab, as well as the presence of affiliates linked to Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, and reiterating its determination to support efforts, including through a comprehensive approach, to reduce the threat posed by Al-Shabaab in Somalia, in accordance with applicable international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law,

Paying tribute to the bravery and sacrifices made by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and Somali security forces in the fight against Al-Shabaab, *commending* AMISOM and the Somalia security forces for the provision of security and *recognising* that security provided by AMISOM remains critical at this stage,

Commending the role of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) in supporting peace and reconciliation, conflict resolution, the state formation process, the electoral process, the National Security Architecture implementation, a realistic conditions-based transition plan (Transition Plan) with clear target dates, and the promotion and protection of human rights and compliance with international humanitarian law in Somalia,

Expressing its full support for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSOM, Michael Keating, and the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia and the Head of AMISOM, Francisco Caetano José Madeira,

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Welcoming the progress made since the election of President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed Farmaajo on 8 February 2017, including the swift appointment of a Government, the increased representation of women in Parliament and Government, commitment to economic reforms including those needed to support re-engagement with the International Financial Institutions, formal approval of the drafting of a National Development Plan and the mobilisation of a coordination architecture to support its implementation, agreement on the National Security Architecture, development of a Transition Plan, and the political roadmap,

Underscoring the need to maintain momentum towards consolidating Somalia's federal system in this regard, *welcoming* the commitments of the Federal Government of Somalia to one person, one vote elections in 2020/2021, *underscoring* the importance of making progress on the political roadmap, agreement on revenue collection and resource sharing, the new policing model, the justice and correction model and formalising the status of the Federal Member States as soon as possible, and *further welcoming* the commitment of the Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member States as set out in the 5 November 2017 consultative meeting to reach an agreement on outstanding constitutional issues in close consultation with the Parliament within six months,

Welcoming the commitment of the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States to pursue inclusive political dialogue to support the peaceful resolution of disputes that threaten internal peace and security including the recent efforts in Gaalkacyo, Marka and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)-led reconciliation agreement between the Galmudug administration with Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a (ASWJ) that confirmed Dhusamareb as the administrative capital of Galmudug, and *expressing concern* over continuing tension between "Somaliland" and Puntland in Sool and Sanaag,

Underlining that a capable, accountable, acceptable and affordable security sector, with full respect for human rights and the rule of law, is a crucial part of long-term peace in Somalia, *noting* that progress in improving Somalia's security needs to be accelerated and prioritized, and *stressing* the importance of stabilisation activities, development, and political and economic reforms to a comprehensive approach to security,

Welcoming in this regard agreement on the Somalia National Security Architecture endorsed by the National Security Council on 8 May 2017, the Security Pact adopted by the Federal Government of Somalia, Federal Member States and all international partners attending the London Somalia Conference on 11 May 2017, consistent with the transition of the primary responsibility for security to the Somali Security Forces, and the renewed commitment of the Federal Government and Federal Member States at the Somalia Security Conference on 4 December 2017,

Welcoming the Federal Government of Somalia's development of a Transition Plan with clear target dates, geographical priorities and the operational readiness assessment, with a view to conducting a conditions-based, gradual handover of security from AMISOM to the Somali Security Forces, including conducting joint operations with AMISOM in order to become the primary security provider in Somalia, and *calling* for its swift finalisation and implementation,

Welcoming the Federal Government of Somalia and the international community's commitment to a Comprehensive Approach to Security (CAS) in Somalia, and *recognizing* the need for non-military approaches as part of this approach in order to achieve long-term human security for Somalis,

Welcoming the Federal Government of Somalia's active engagement with the Universal Periodic Review process, *encouraging* full implementation of all accepted

recommendations, *condemning* the continued violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law in Somalia, and *underscoring* the need to end impunity, uphold and fulfil human rights and hold accountable those responsible for crimes involving violations or abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law,

Recognising that the year ahead should see the swift implementation of critical agreements reached in 2017, particularly the outcomes from the December High Level Meetings in Mogadishu which agreed a Mutual Accountability Framework setting out political, economic and security priorities for 2018, agreed to map a conditions-based transition with clear target dates and an implementation plan for the national security architecture which together lay the political, development and economic milestones for the completion of the political roadmap, *underscoring* the importance of effective implementation and mutual accountability, and *emphasising* UNSOM's central role to support implementation,

Recalling the 10 December 2017 UN Protection of Civilians Report and the Conclusions on Children and Armed Conflict (S/AC.51/2017/2),

Expressing grave concern at the credible and continued risk of famine in Somalia as a result of the severe drought in the context of ongoing conflict and environmental factors, *welcoming* the Federal Government of Somalia's response to the humanitarian crisis, and *encouraging* further cooperation with international and national humanitarian actors to relieve immediate need and build longer-term resilience, including for internally displaced persons,

Recalling its Presidential statement S/PRST/2011/15, *recognising* the adverse effects of climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters among other factors on the stability of Somalia, including through drought, desertification, land degradation, and food insecurity, and *emphasising* the need for adequate risk assessments and risk management strategies by governments and the United Nations relating to these factors;

Welcoming the generous support of donors to the Somali authorities and the Humanitarian Response Plan, *encouraging* further contributions to humanitarian assistance efforts, and *welcoming* United Nations' efforts to coordinate the drought response and support the Somali authorities,

UNSOM

1. *Decides* to extend until 31 March 2019 UNSOM's mandate as set out in paragraph 1 of resolution 2158 (2014);

2. *Requests* UNSOM to implement its mandate at both the national and regional level, including through strengthening further and maintaining its presence in all Federal Member States including in Galmudug and its administrative capital Dhusamareb, subject to United Nations security requirements and as the security situation allows, in order to provide strategic policy advice on the Somali Government-led inclusive political process, reconciliation, peacebuilding, state-building, including the review of the Provisional Federal Constitution, their preparations for the 2020/21 elections, security sector reform and implementation of the Transition Plan;

3. *Underscores* the importance of UNSOM's support to the Somali-Government-led inclusive political process, including the provision of United Nations good offices functions to support the Federal Government of Somalia's peace and reconciliation process, in particular with regard to the consolidation of the state formation, mediation, prevention and resolution of conflicts, and constitutional review processes, resource and revenue sharing, improved accountability of Somali

institutions especially on anti-corruption issues, strengthening the rule of law, including the development of an effective federal political system, and a federal justice system, and implementation of the new policing model in line with the Comprehensive Approach to Security;

4. *Further underscores* the importance of UNSOM's support to the Federal Government of Somalia on preparations for the delivery of an inclusive, credible and transparent one person, one vote elections in 2020/2021 with a focus on the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) at national and sub-national level to fulfil its constitutional mandate, in line with the Somali-led Operational Strategic Plan for 2017–2021, the goal of nationwide voter registration by 2019, and coordination of international electoral support to Somalia;

5. *Encourages* UNSOM to enhance its interaction with Somali civil society at national and regional level, including women, youth including through the Youth Council and the Youth Caucus, business and religious leaders, and to help ensure that the views of civil society are incorporated into the various Somali-led, inclusive political processes;

6. *Requests* UNSOM to provide strategic advice to accelerate implementation of the Comprehensive Approach to Security, including facilitating more effective coordination of international partners' efforts to support the Security Pact, priorities of the Transition Plan, National Security Architecture implementation and the New Partnership for Somalia;

7. *Requests* UNSOM, in coordination with international partners, to continue to support the Federal Government of Somalia's efforts to implement Somalia's National Strategy and Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in order to strengthen Somalia's capacity to prevent and counter terrorism, consistent with its international obligations, relevant Security Council resolutions and implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

8. *Requests* UNSOM to support system-wide implementation of the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) across all United Nations support to AMISOM and the Somali security sector;

9. *Welcomes* the strong relationship between UNSOM, UNSOS the United Nations Country Team and AMISOM, and *underlines* the importance of all entities continuing to strengthen the relationship further at all levels, including through the Senior Leadership Coordination Forum;

10. *Requests* UNSOM to continue to implement its mandate in an integrated manner, and *welcomes* the Secretary-General's efforts to strengthen strategic integration and decision-making across the UN system within respective mandates, including with consideration of the role of women and youth;

Somalia

11. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Federal Government of Somalia, in accordance with the rule of law, to continue to make progress on inclusive transparent and accountable state-building and federalism through the next phase of the constitutional review process, including allocation of powers, resource and revenue sharing, the development of a political system, and Federal Justice and Corrections Model signed on 24 January 2018, *further welcomes* the commitment of the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States to work closely together through the National Security Council mechanism, and with the Parliament on these issues, building on the existing work on the constitutional review, and *encourages* dialogue with civil society and the Somali public, including the integration of women and youth in this regard;

12. *Emphasises* the importance of reconciliation, including inter and intra-clan reconciliation, across the country as the basis of a long-term approach to stability, and *urges* the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States to pursue reconciliation talks at local, regional and national level, including a resumption of the dialogue with "Somaliland";

13. *Welcomes* the commitments of the Federal Government of Somalia to one person, one vote elections in 2020/2021, the launch of the National Independent Electoral Commission strategic plan and the commitment to develop and approve an electoral law setting out the legislative framework by the end of 2018, *recalls* PRST/2017/3 in which the Security Council called for active steps to lay the foundation for elections in four years, and *stresses* the importance in this regard of the Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member States reaching agreement on the system of representation, decisions on voter registration, institutional development of the NIEC and development and adoption of the Electoral law in 2018;

14. *Reaffirms* the important role of women and youth in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, and in peacebuilding, *stresses* the importance of their full, equal and effective participation in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, *notes* that women are not adequately represented in governmental organisations at regional and national level and *urges* the Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member States to continue to promote increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in Somali institutions;

15. *Welcomes* the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States' commitment to security sector reform, in particular the historic political agreement Somalia's leaders reached on 16 April 2017 to integrate regional and federal forces into a coherent National Security Architecture capable of gradually taking on lead responsibility for providing inclusive security, *welcomes* the integration of Puntland security forces into the Somali National Army, the establishment and meetings of the National Security Council and National Security Office, the completion of the national operational readiness assessment, as an essential element for the right-sizing and reform of the Somali Security Forces, and the commitment to undertake regional operational readiness assessments as soon as possible;

16. *Welcomes* the development of a realistic conditions-based Transition Plan with clear target dates agreed by the Federal Government of Somalia, Federal Member States and international partners and formalised on 4 December 2017 at the Security Conference in Mogadishu;

17. *Underlines* the importance of swift implementation of the National Security Architecture in order to develop Somali-led security institutions and forces, both military and civilian, that are capable, affordable, acceptable and accountable with the ability to provide security and protection to the people of Somalia, in particular to deliver effective security and protection for women, children and persons in vulnerable situations, as part of a comprehensive approach to security, and *emphasises* the vital importance of the rule of law and civilian oversight of security forces complying with international humanitarian law and human rights law as applicable, in particular with respect to ending and preventing recruitment, re-recruitment and the use of children in armed conflict;

18. *Welcomes* the launch of Somalia's National Strategy and Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, the development of Federal Member States action plans, and *calls upon* Somalia to become party to the international counter-terrorism conventions and protocols;

19. *Welcomes* commitments by international partners to provide additional and more effective support, including more standardised and more coordinated delivery of mentoring, training, equipment, capacity-building, and remuneration of police and military forces consistent with the Security Pact agreed at the London Somalia Conference and in line with a realistic conditions-based transition plan with clear target dates;

20. *Calls on* international partners to strengthen coordination in order to harmonise donor support to the Somali security sector, and *requests* UNSOM to continue to assist the Federal Government of Somalia in coordinating international donor support to Somalia's security sector in compliance with HRDDP, including through coordination and advice to the comprehensive approach to security structure;

21. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Federal Government of Somalia to meet the requirements of the ongoing IMF Staff Monitored Programme, *encourages* the Federal Government of Somalia to continue to fulfil its commitments to sound, transparent and accountable financial management including revenue mobilisation, resource allocation, budget execution, and anti-corruption measures, as set out in the New Partnership for Somalia, and *requests* UNSOM to continue to work with partners to provide support and strategic policy advice to achieve this in order to lay the foundations for inclusive and transparent elections, bolster the Government's ability to deliver services, attract investment, and help advance Somalia along the path towards normalisation with International Financial Institutions and debt relief;

22. *Expresses* concern about all violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights including by Al-Shabaab and affiliates linked to the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, *calls* on all parties to comply immediately with their obligations under international law and to fulfil their obligations under international humanitarian law to take all feasible precautions to avoid or, in any event minimise civilian deaths and casualties;

23. *Welcomes* the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission, and *encourages* the Federal Government of Somalia to approve the appointment of the Commissioners, and implement fully the Action Plan of its Human Rights Roadmap, including by implementing legislation aimed at protecting human rights and investigating and prosecuting perpetrators of crimes involving violations or abuses of human rights, violations of international humanitarian law, and conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence;

24. *Underlines* the importance of respect for international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians, especially women and children, by all parties to the conflict in Somalia;

25. *Reiterates* its continued concern at the high number of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), including persons newly displaced by the drought, *expressing* its serious concern at the ongoing forced evictions of IDPs in Somalia, *stresses* that any eviction should be consistent with relevant national and international frameworks, *calls upon* the Federal Government of Somalia and all relevant actors to strive to provide concrete durable solutions for internal displacement, and further calls upon the Federal Government of Somalia and all relevant actors to strive to create the conditions conducive to the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of refugees and IDPs with the support of the international community;

26. *Expresses* grave concern at the worsening humanitarian crisis and renewed risk of famine in Somalia and its impact on the people of Somalia, *commends* the efforts of the United Nations humanitarian agencies and their humanitarian partners

in preventing famine in 2017, *encourages* all partners and donors to maintain humanitarian efforts in 2018, *condemns* any misuse or obstruction of humanitarian assistance, *reiterates* its demand that all parties allow and facilitate full, safe, rapid and unhindered access for the timely delivery of aid to persons in need across Somalia in line with the humanitarian principles, including by dismantling illegal checkpoints and removing administrative hurdles, *underlines* the importance of proper accounting in international humanitarian support, and *encourages* national disaster management agencies in Somalia to scale-up capacity with support from the United Nations to take a stronger coordination and leadership role;

27. *Strongly condemns* all violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict in Somalia, *calls upon* the Federal Government of Somalia to implement fully the Convention of the Rights of the Child 1989, and the Action Plans signed in 2012, the recently adopted Somali National Army Command Order on the Protection of Children's Rights before, during and after operations and the Standard Operation Procedures on the handover of children, and *underscores* the need to strengthen the legal and operational framework for the protection of children, including by ratification of or accession to its Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council regularly informed on the implementation of this resolution, identify and report on progress towards achieving key political benchmarks, including through oral updates and no fewer than three written reports, with the first written report by 1 May 2018 and every 120 days thereafter;

29. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.